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THE SILVER FIR.

For its tall, slender and tapering form, the graceful and regular curve of its branches, the depth, delicacy and permanency of its foliage, the Silver Fir deservedly ranks high among our native forest trees, and stands among the foremost in the opinion of ornamental gardeners. Few foreign trees can be preferred or even

compared with this native of our own northern regions. What grove, garden, or court-yard, what clump or row of trees, what hedge or village avenue, what farmhouse or hill top, might not soon assume a new and pleasing feature, if planted with a few, or even one of the seeds of this fine American plant?

Having already given our readers a description of the Silver Fir, and minute directions for its propagation and culture, (see the American Penny Magazine, No. 39, page 615,) we will add here a few remarks of a more general nature.

When we consider the utility and beauty of trees, it seems unaccountable that we know and care no more about them. We look with pleasure on the fresh foliage of spring, and joyfully seek the shade of the grove in summer; the falling leaf, in autumn, carries its solemn lesson to our hearts, and the leafless branches of winter, add their own feature to the scene of desolation, or, when invested with ice, dazzle us with their splendor, while the blazing fragments of the oak or walnut, collect us at evening at the cheerful fireside. The artizan becomes acquainted with the different qualities of woods most appropriate to his use; and the ship builder, as well as the navigator, and all "who go down to the sea in ships," are often led, by their employments or exposures, to observe and enquire on their strength and durability. But how few of us have ever made the study of trees a particular object, and how many of us are liable to the charge of having destroyed some fine or useful one, which should have been preserved, or at least of having neglected to protect, or to plant such as might now have been beneficial or ornamental!

We have made remarks on this subject before, (see page 559, of this Magazine, No. 33;) and our interest in it has rather increased since we began to do something to promote the propagation of useful and ornamental trees by something more than words. In our 36th number, (page 576,) we gave a brief history and description of the Ailanthus; and we have since addressed circulars, containing the same information, with directions for planting and rearing that tree, to numerous gentlemen in different parts of the country, accompanied with about fifty thousand of the seeds in small parcels, but so distributed, that, if they should be attended to, several thousand of

our villages will be furnished with that peculiar, favorite and thrifty plant in a few months. About as many more may be had in the Western and Southern States in a very short time. When we reflect on the delay and expense which in most places would otherwise have attended its introduction, and the encouragement given us by some of those public spirited gentlemen with whom we have thus taken the liberty to open a correspondence, we feel gratified and encouraged; and we indulge our feelings in the anticipated pleasure of witnessing the improvements they are thus permitting us to aid in promoting, among the sea-ports and cities, the inland villages, hamlets and roads, which may be in the routes of our future journeys.

If the editor of this Magazine may be allowed to make a few further remarks of a more personal character than he often likes to indulge in, he would say:—I was a traveller in Europe in my youth, and came back to my native land, my friends and countrymen, with a warm and prevailing desire to do something for a country, to which I owed, under God, ten thousand blessings. And this desire still exists. We have opportunities and means for improving ourselves, and the condition and prospects of our children, in various respects and in different ways. The present facilities of transmission and communication present us now new opportunities; and if the first experiment should prove encouraging, the friends of *cheap and easy improvements* may hereafter receive publications, seeds, prints, and other objects from New York, of immediate and practical value, of such descriptions and at such small prices, as they can have but little idea of at present. It may be sufficient to add here, that the names of persons disposed to cooperate for such purposes, so far as the plans and means may appear good and wise, will be received with much pleasure, it being understood that no one need apprehend being taxed in any case without his consent, beyond the payment of a letter at single postage.

LIVING SKETCHES OF ITALY.—No. 13.

THE IMPOSTURES OF ST. FILUMENA.

[CONTINUED.]

"Third Series of Miracles," entitled, "*Miraculous Multiplications of Saint Filumena.*"

The first miracle of this class given is briefly this:—The ghost of a dead mother appeared to one of her three daughters, who were worshippers of Filumena, and had consecrated themselves to a single life, and told her to keep a lamp burning before the picture of the saint. Her confessor advised her to obey; and she put into it all the oil she could afford to buy, which was only enough for a few hours, telling the saint she must replenish it herself if she wished to have it burn longer. It continued to burn about two years. The greatest miracle, we should think, was that the confessor was not suspected of having any thing to do with it. A similar wonder was observed at Lucera, on the 19th of January, 1833; and again, at Mugnano, on another occasion, a poor woman was seen by a crowd in the church, pouring out a cup-full of blessed oil from the Saint's lamp, when the lamp had just been found entirely empty.

[The Bishop of Lucera, who had received forty pictures of Filumena from Naples, had them miraculously multiplied to three hundred, "an unexpected, but precious gift, which the saint wished to make to the zealous prelate." He displayed them at the episcopal palace and published the miracle to his people, selling the pictures too, (if we understand the book,) at an advanced price. The books published by Don Francisco have been often multiplied in as remarkable a manner, and, doubtless, with as favorable an influence on the market. The second addition appears to have met a dull sale until he proclaimed the number was growing on his hands, and showed how the saint had balanced some of the miraculous volumes on the backs and rounds of the chairs in his shop. They then went off even faster than they had come. The new books had no dust upon them, and that satisfied spectators that they had just come from heaven. There was something peculiarly "graceful and amiable" in the appearance presented by the books, as ranged in disorder by the saint; indeed, "when any body has the honor to be acquainted with her, it is very difficult to keep

from loving her." (p. 91. Two other persons had some of that edition multiplied on their hands.)

[In 1829, the fifth edition appeared; and, after returning from a journey, in which he appears to have peddled them with success, he gave out that he had sold 156 more than he had printed, and had 80 on hand. The remainder, notwithstanding, were left long on the shelves to collect the dust, but this was not through the want of a demand; for "the number of his orders amounted in a year to several hundred volumes," and yet "the stock was still left! Such," exclaims the author, "are the wonderful works of God to glorify his saints!"]

The fourth Series of Miracles.—Those wrought in favor of little children

[Rosa de Lucia, a cousin of Don Francisco, was restored to life by St. Filumena.]

A child, twelve years old, named James d'Elia, son of a surgeon of Visciano, had one of her feet crushed by a cart wheel, and was carried home insensible. Mortification set in, amputation would have been resorted to, but for the extreme debility of the patient. At this juncture, Don Sabbatino Nappo, a priest, arrived from Naples with an image of St. Filumena, which he presented, inviting the family to worship it, and promising to intercede in their favor. They accordingly knelt down and repeated in concert the litanies of the very holy virgin; when the ecclesiastic, approaching the little patient, whom he roused from his lethargy and showed him St. Filumena. He began to talk, and rose and walked—his foot was entirely cured, and no signs of injury remained except that he had lost one toe.

There was a little girl named Filumena Canonico, for whom the saint showed a peculiar regard, doubtless on account of her name. She had a fall, and the fourth toe of one of her feet cut off, which was taken and buried in the cemetery. At night, while others were asleep, she had a vision, as she declared. The saint appeared to her, gave her some sugar plums and said:—"My little Filumena, don't be afraid. Tell your mamma not to cry, and that I will cure you." So saying she disappeared. The next morning the wound had healed, but the toe was gone. She afterwards received other visits from the saint, who always brought her sugar things: and finally a new toe was fastened to her foot.

though evidently not the same which had been lost.

In 1830, Filumena Sevis, a girl rather older as well as wilder than she, stuck her scissors into her eye, and the surgeons pronounced the wound incurable. Don Francisco directed her to go to the church and wet it with oil from St. Filumena's lamp, which she did and was cured. A bright mark was left in the spot that had been wounded. The girl, meeting afterwards a cousin who had been burnt by fireworks at the saint's festival, sent him to try the same remedy, and with equal success.

"Dominico Moccia was the first person in Castelvetero who ever named a child Filumena. This mark of attention pleased the saint; and it was soon perceptible; from sensible signs of the purest friendship, that she watched over her little ward in a very careful manner. As there are in that part of the country a great number of winged insects, which torment the inhabitants with their continual stings, the mother of Filumena took care to protect her every night with a veil, which she wrapped round her. In the morning, when they came, as usual, to make her little toilet, they did not find the veil over the body of the child, but at the end of the cradle, and folded with great care. A second observation increased their astonishment, for they found both the face and the hands of Filumena unbiten, although they had been exposed to the insects all night."

[Her parents resolved, at this time, to visit the tomb of the Saint, but did not undertake their pilgrimage until their child was three years of age. When little Filumena saw the shrine uncovered she expressed great terror, and afterwards said, when the cause of it was asked by her father, on their way home,] "Ah, papa, it was because she wanted to take me by the hands, and said, 'Stay with me, Filumena, come here, don't go away,' and she wanted to take me quite away from Signora Justina, but I did not want to leave my papa and mamma." "Touching kindness!" adds the book, "goodness, condescension, truly fit for the elect!"

[A learned ecclesiastic communicated the following to Don Francisco.—A little niece of his, likewise named Filumena, had her clothes laid with her mother's one night, on a chair, under a lamp which was burning before a picture of the martyr; and in the mor-

ning it was found that a spark had fallen and burned the mother's dress, while that of the little daughter escaped with only one little hole"—a proof of what would have happened, if the vigilant protectress of children honored with her name had not taken care to extinguish the threatening spark herself.]

THE FIRST AMERICAN ELECTED TO THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT—THE FIRST MOVEMENT OF THE REVOLUTION.

The very first movement of the Revolution was made in the city of New York, by the convoking and holding a convention of the Colonies, (or States,) as early as March, 1762, to remonstrate and protest against the oppressions of the Mother Country. Fortunately I can afford you that information from authentic tradition in some of our oldest families in New York, which establishes the fact that the first great movement originated with and was carried through by two gentlemen of this city, who were much distinguished in their day and generation. These gentlemen were ROBERT LIVINGSTON and JOHN CRUGER, whose names you find amongst the first on the roll of that convention. From the pen of the latter of those gentlemen proceeded the admirable memorial to the Parliament of Great Britain, published in that Journal; and in all the proceedings of this Congress he took a leading part. In the year of its session he held the important offices of Speaker of the Assembly and Mayor of the city of New York, and was in other respects one of the most distinguished of its citizens. Of these facts, as well as some others connected with our early history, you will find a record in the number of the Knickerbocker Magazine for January, 1843, in an editorial article under the head of "*Election to Parliament of Burke and Cruger for Bristol*," in which some notices are given of the efforts of Mr. Henry Cruger in Parliament, in favor of the independence of our country, of which he was a native, being a nephew of the above named Mr. John Cruger, and, like him, born in the city of New York.

New York has hitherto quietly and most strangely allowed both Boston and Mecklenburg (in N. Carolina) to claim the honor of the first movements in the birth of our Revolution, in acts which occurred ten years later than this great and glorious proceeding in the city of New York.

The first emigrant of this (Cruger) family, in 1660, came to America purely from a love of freedom and independence, this family in Bristol, being of great wealth, and tracing their descent from Sir Philip Cruciger, (Cross-bearer) who went with King Richard to the crusades.

From the Knickerbocker of January, 1843.

THE ELECTION OF BURKE AND CRUGER FOR BRISTOL.—Mr. Henry Cruger was three times elected to Parliament, and alike distinguished in and out of that body. His effective exertions in behalf of American liberty and interests will not soon be forgotten. He was the first, and till within a few years, the only American elected to the English Parliament. Mr. Henry Cruger (who was Mayor of the city of Bristol at the time of his election as colleague of Mr. Burke) was born in this city in 1739. His father, who, like his son, had been Mayor of Bristol, was also a native of New York; his father one of the largest and most influential merchants of his day, having emigrated to America as early as 1660.

Among the sons of this first emigrant, John (uncle of Henry) was three times Mayor of New York, and Speaker of the house of Assembly, to which office he was elected in opposition to Hon. William Livingston, afterwards governor of New Jersey. He was a delegate also from this city to the first congress of the States held in America in 1765, whence the first protest was sent to the king and Parliament against their unauthorized encroachments upon the rights of the colonists. Mr. Henry Cruger, the colleague of Burke, removed to Bristol when quite a youth, and was afterwards known as a large merchant: his elder brother Nicholas remaining in New York, engaged in extensive commercial transactions, particularly with the West Indies, where he had it in his power to patronize the afterwards distinguished statesman, General Alexander Hamilton, then an orphan boy in his counting room, whom he sent in one of his own ships to this country. General Hamilton was always proud to acknowledge and prompt to reciprocate these early kindnesses of Mr. Nicholas Cruger. Meantime Mr. Henry Cruger, a gentleman of polished manners, well cultivated mind, and great personal popularity, was elected Mayor of Bristol; and it was through his urgent solicitation, that his friend, Mr. Burke, was induced to become a candidate for Parliament, he being then an almost entire stranger to the people of Bristol: and it is believed that mainly through the influence of Mr. Cruger the election of Burke was secured; since, elevated and enviable as was his subsequent renown, he had at that time obtained but little distinction.

In some of the first published notices of the life of Mr. Burke, a ridiculous and malicious anecdote was related by some enemy of Mr. Cruger, to the effect, that he made no address to the people at the polls, but contented himself with making the exclamation:—"I say ditto to Mr. Burke!" The absurdity of this story is proved by the fact recorded in the newspapers of that period; namely, that Mr. Cruger, a well known citizen and Mayor of Bristol, in a very able and eloquent opening address, to which his colleague handsomely referred, introduced Mr.

Burke for the first time to the electors of the city. Mr. Cruger, therefore, preceded and did not succeed Mr. Burke, in addressing the people.

Some of his speeches in Parliament have been republished in the Life of Peter Van Schaack, Esq., heretofore noticed in the Knickerbocker. Mr. Van Schaack having married a sister of Mr. Cruger, a long and interesting correspondence on American affairs was maintained between them. Among the speeches contained in this biography is the maiden-speech delivered by Mr. Cruger in Parliament. In relation to this speech, and the effect it produced upon the minds of his hearers, a letter from the Rev. Dr. Vardill, rector of Trinity church, New York, who was then in England, contains the following remarks:—

Administration applaud him for his moderation; *Opposition*, for the just line he has drawn, and all men for his modest eloquence and graceful delivery. His enemies are silenced by the strongest confutation of their charges against him of illiberal invective against the people of England; by his manly defence of his country, and honorable approbation of its opponents, wherever he thought them justifiable. I was in the house on the debate. It was remarkably crowded with members, and the galleries were filled with peers and persons of distinction. When Mr. C. rose, there was a deep silence. He faltered a little at first, but as he proceeded, the cry of 'Hear him, hear him!' animated him with resolution. Hood, the Irish orator, sat behind me. He asked, 'Who is that? who is that? A young speaker? Whoever he is, he speaks more eloquently than any man I ever heard in the house.' I took great pains to learn people's sentiments, and found them all in his favor. Mr. Garrick, a few days after, in a discussion on the subject, said 'he never saw human nature more amiably displayed than in the modest manner of address, pathos of affection for his country, and graceful gesture, exhibited by Mr. Cruger, in his speech.—My heart beat high with anxiety, I trembled when he rose, with the most awful and affecting jealousy for the honor of my country. When 'Hear him, hear him!' echoed through the house, joy rushed through every vein, and I seemed to glory in being a New Yorker.'

Among his friends and associates in Parliament, as recorded in the life of Van Schaack, were Burke, Fox, and Sheridan, and 'particularly with Charles James Fox, his political principles brought him into great intimacy; and he was one of that illustrious band of the champions of freedom, who espoused the American cause in the British Parliament.'

Mr. Cruger returned to his native city of New York, where he resided during the latter portion of his life, and where he died, at the advanced age of ninety years.—*Niles's Register.*

The Leading Events of the Life of William Wilberforce.

Communicated for the American Penny Magazine.

The subject that I have chosen for this article, is "The leading events of the Life of William Wilberforce:" one of the greatest men, in the true sense of that word, the world has ever produced. His life was the scene of many, various and important events; but, as it would be impossible, in the space allotted to me, to make due mention of all of them, I will content myself with introducing to the reader's attention, some of the principal ones, and those which more especially distinguished his public career, together with a notice of his character, both public and private; prefacing the whole, with a few words concerning his younger days.

Mr. Wilberforce was a native of Hull, in England, where he was born August 24th, A. D. 1759. His frame, from his infancy, was slight and feeble; and, during his whole life he had to contend with that enemy so common to great men—"ill-health." His eyes, also, were constitutionally weak, which prohibited him from using them during his long parliamentary course, except in particular instances; requiring, therefore, the constant employment of a reader, and an amanuensis. Indeed, he was wont to say, "that he was thankful he had not been born in less civilized times, when it would have been thought impossible to rear so delicate a child." But against all those infirmities of the body, were opposed a "vigorous mind" and an "affectionate temper." His character early inclined to piety; and, for some time, the circumstances in which he was placed, subjected him to a religious influence. But his friends, perceiving it, "became alarmed;" and he was immediately removed from this "dangerous situation," as they thought it. From that moment—his twelfth year—it became their greatest desire to smother in his breast this rising regard for serious things; and he was accordingly introduced to all the pleasures and fascinations of society and the world; and he himself has recorded, that "No pious parents ever labored more to impress a beloved child with sentiments of piety, than they did to give him a taste for the world and its diversions." The task was apparently an easy one, and, apparently, easily was it performed: but the fire was only smothered, not extinguished. It lay smouldering for years, unknown to all outward observers; aye, even to himself, until the time should come when it should burst forth. "A rare skill in singing, and a natural talent for society" were powerful assistants to the wicked intentions of his friends—if they can be so called—and ready passports wherever he went. Thus, his time was spent in one constant round of company and amusement, until he entered college, where he was immediately exposed to still more blighting influences. His companions were the licentious and profligate, who spent their time in drink-

ing and gambling, and whose conversation was even worse than their lives. From the most corrupt of these he withdrew himself at last, but still spent his time in card parties and other idle amusements, while his better companions were busy with their studies and lectures.

He had resolved to enter upon public life; and, on leaving college, he accordingly stood and was elected to parliament from his native town. I will not enter into a particular account of the course he led here. Suffice it to say, that gambling and cards, at the various clubs to which he belonged, and the society to which his ready talents gained him admittance, consumed all the time which his parliamentary duties left unoccupied. At the end of four years, an emergency arising in York, he suddenly formed the idea of standing for that great county. The station was one of great responsibility; the county being a tenth part of the whole kingdom. He was a young man, of mercantile origin, having no connection or acquaintance with any of the nobility or gentry of the place; and to crown all, had to contend against the influence of the regular nominees, both men of large fortune and great connexions. His success seemed almost impossibility; but his natural powers of eloquence, exhibited at a public meeting, held before the election, prevailed against his opponents and secured his triumph.

But the time was fast approaching, when his character was to undergo that change which gave a totally different coloring to his whole after life. A continental tour being determined upon, he invited his friend, Dr. Milnor, to accompany him, as one well fitted both by his talents and by his social powers for an agreeable companion. He was, however, at this time, wholly ignorant of his religious character: "otherwise," he says, "it would have decided him against making him the offer; so true is it, that a gracious hand leads us in ways that we know not, and blesses us, not only without, but even against our own plans and inclinations." To be brief: the discovery of his companion's true character soon led to conversations and discussions upon serious subjects, and finally to their examining the Scriptures together; and by degrees he imbibed the spirit of this Holy Book. Serious reflection showed to him the "deep guilt and black ingratitude of his past life," and he determined thereafter to devote himself to the service of God. He returned home an altered man; and, from that time, led a new life.

His first public attempt was to form a "Society to resist the Spread of Immorality." This was soon in "active and useful operation;" and "before its dissolution, it had obtained many valuable acts of Parliament," and "greatly checked the diffusion of blasphemous and indecent publications." It "afforded also a centre, from which many other useful schemes proceeded, and was the first

example of those various associations, which soon succeeded the apathy of former years."

But, as I have said before, it would be impossible for me to mention here, all the acts of humanity in which he was either the prime mover or the chief participator. To the principal one of his life, therefore, and the one, which, of itself, would have rendered his name immortal, will I more especially confine myself. Every one will, if at all acquainted with the subject, readily understand me to refer to the Abolition of the Slave-Trade.

There has been considerable dispute, as to whom is due the honor of *his* having first stirred in this question—whether to himself, or to one of his friends, Lady Middleton. There can be but little doubt, if we may believe his own words, of its having originated in his own breast, and of its being the "fruit of his religious change;" although Lady Middleton's application to him to move in the matter "was," as he said, "just one of those many impulses, which were all giving to his mind the same direction."

"His abomination of the Slave Trade," writes one of his school-fellows, "he evinced when not more than fourteen years of age; and one day he gave me a letter to put into the post office, addressed to the editor of the York paper, which, he told me, was in condemnation of the odious traffic in human flesh." And upon his first entry into Parliament, before his religious change, he had been strongly interested for the West India Slave, and expressed the hope, "that some time or other, he should redress the wrongs of those wretched and degraded beings."

The question of Abolition did not originate with him. It had been previously agitated, first by Quakers in this country, and afterwards by the same sect in England: but to him, undoubtedly, belongs the credit of *his having taken upon himself*, and as faithfully carried through, the most noble though arduous undertaking. Some years before, Mr. Burke had thought of undertaking the cause: but, perceiving the difficulties he would meet with—indeed, thinking that its success was impossible, he abandoned it lest it should bring unpopularity upon himself and his party. But no such servile considerations moved Mr. Wilberforce. He was actuated by higher principles. Conceiving himself to be called by God, to undertake this work, he set about it in a manner becoming such a call. It was not for his own glory, but for that of his Maker, and in His fear, that he entered upon it, and in His power confided throughout. But what a task was before him! To abolish the Slave Trade—a traffic which had existed from time immemorial, which was closely connected with the commercial interests of the country, and upon the continuance of which depended the support of the colonies. It was an enterprise of no ordinary character, and he felt its difficulties. Parliament was opposed to it, and the Administration as a

body was opposed to it. The first thing then to be done was, to awaken the "slumbering indignation of the country against the cruel and bloody system." For this purpose books on the subject were widely circulated, and much knowledge, in regard to the true character of the Trade, diffused. And in this, as well as in his future endeavors, he found a powerful ally in a society of religious men, formed for the purpose of "raising funds and collecting the information necessary for procuring the abolition of the Trade. It was now found that it was absolutely necessary "to possess a great body of distinct facts, upon which to base the first attack in the House of Commons;" and, to procure this, Mr. Pitt consented to summon the Privy Council, to act as a Board of Trade, to look into the state of the commercial intercourse of the country with Africa. At this moment it was thought that Mr. Wilberforce would be forever removed from the conduct of the cause. A disorder of a very serious nature seized upon him, and the result was most doubtful. He soon, however, recovered from the violence of the attack, and was enabled to resume his duties.

During his illness, the country friends of the cause, who had sent no less than one hundred petitions to the House, began to grow impatient of delay; and some even cried out for a new leader. It was deemed expedient, therefore, that something should be done; and his recovery being without hope, he resigned the cause into the hands of his friend, Mr. Pitt, who immediately brought forward a resolution, binding the House to consider the question at the next session. It will not be necessary to speak in detail of the different steps of the attack, which was made upon this blood-thirsty monster until it was finally destroyed. They can be found elsewhere. A more general view will answer our purpose. For the space of twenty years did this great leader in the strife ply his unwearied strength in this holy cause. Firm was the opposition made by his opponents and innumerable their resources. They defended Slavery, not only on the ground of justice and policy, but even on that of humanity. It had existed, even in Africa, from time immemorial. It was sanctioned by the Old Testament, in which some of the characters, especially held up as examples, are said to have possessed slaves, both male and female. The government had invited the carrying on of the Trade, and therefore an immense sum of money had been embarked in it, all of which would be lost by its abolition. It was necessary that the colonies be cultivated, in order that those commodities should be furnished, which habit rendered indispensable. If the trade were stopped, the supply of slaves would be cut off, and with it the necessary produce, which would then have to be purchased of foreign nations. Its humanity was also maintained.

(To be continued.)



SWALLOWS.

With such a fine, spirited and pleasing picture before us, how can we avoid wishing to add a few more facts respecting these active, harmless and graceful, yet somewhat mysterious birds; and how can we turn to any other writer than the universal favorite, Wilson, who has spread so much attraction over the path to the study of ornithology? Of those swallows which seem to claim our peculiar attention, by the choice they make of our chimneys as nestling places, Wilson says:—

“They arrive in Pennsylvania late in April or early in May, dispersing themselves over the whole country, wherever there are vacant chimneys in summer sufficiently high and convenient for their accommodation. In no other situation with us are they observed at present to build. This circumstance naturally suggests the query, Where did these birds construct their nests before the arrival of Europeans in this country, when there were no such places for their accommodation? I would answer, probably in the same situations in which they still continue to build in the remote regions of our western forests, where European improvements of this kind are scarcely to be found: namely, in the hollow of a tree, which in some cases has the nearest resemblance to their present choice of all others. One of the first settlers in the State of Kentucky informed me that he cut down a large hollow beech-tree which contained forty or fifty nests of the chimney-swallow, most of which by the fall of the tree or by

the weather, were lying at the bottom of the hollow, but sufficient fragments remained adhering to the sides of the tree to enable him to number them. They appeared, he said, of some years’ standing. The present site which they have chosen must, however, hold out many more advantages than the former, since we see that in the whole thickly-settled parts of the United States these birds have uniformly adopted this new convenience, not a single pair being observed to prefer the woods.

Security from birds of prey and other animals, from storms that frequently overthrow the timber, and the numerous ready conveniences which these new situations afford, are doubtless some of the advantages. The choice they have made certainly bespeaks something more than mere unreasoning instinct, and does honor to their discernment.

The nest of this bird is of singular construction, being formed of very small twigs fastened together with a strong adhesive glue or gum, which is secreted by two glands, one on each side of the hind head, and mixes with the saliva. With this glue, which becomes as hard as the twigs themselves, the whole nest is thickly besmeared. The nest itself is small and shallow, and attached by one side or edge to the wall, and is totally destitute of the soft lining with which the others are so plentifully supplied. The eggs are generally four, and white. They generally have two broods in the season. The young are fed at intervals during the greater part of the night, a fact which I have had frequent opportunities of remarking, both here and in the Mississippi territory.



AN ESTHONIAN SPINSTER.

Whoever has read the very interesting "Letters from the Baltic," by an English lady, will be pleased to be reminded of that agreeable book, by this portrait of one of the most humble characters described in it; and those who have not, will certainly be equally gratified, if the notice of it we are about to give, with the following extracts, should lead them to peruse it.

The young female above depicted is an Esthonian peasant girl, who was drawn and described by our authoress as she daily sat at her unobtrusive but useful employment, in the spacious kitchen of the northern baron, whose house she visited, during the winter in which she made the observations which furnished her pages. The promontory of Esthonia, jutting into the Baltic, removed from the route of every common traveller, and noticed but by one in a hun-

dred of the numerous books, which mention almost every spot in civilized Europe, would have appeared as one of the least inviting; and yet the skill of a superior writer, and still more her good common sense, and a genuine flow of feeling, can render the most bleak and desert region attractive to a reader, if it be the abode of any of our brethren of the human race, and we are introduced to their society so far as to become acquainted with their condition, character and circumstances. There is something in every community, every family, and every individual, which we can admire, love, or pity, if we only understand its virtues, or its privations; and these cannot be made known to us by any one who has not some sympathy with the persons themselves.

The following we extract from the seventh of the "Letters" above referred to.

A few days after my arrival we removed into the country, a day's journey through a richly wooded landscape, and arrived in the evening before a grand crescent-shaped building, recalling in size and form the many tenemented terraces of Regent's Park. If the exterior promised fair, the interior far surpassed all expectation, and I have only to shut my eyes to a certain roughness and want of finish to fancy myself in a regal residence. The richness of the architectural ornaments, the beauty of the frescoes and painted ceilings—The polish of them any-colored and marble-like parquets—the height, size, and proportion of the apartments, produce a tout ensemble of the utmost splendor, entirely independent of the aid of furniture, which here, like the Narva chairs, seems to have been constructed before comfort was admitted to form an ingredient in human happiness.

We continued our walk to the housekeeper's rooms, very comfortable and warm, with three little children and half a dozen chickens sharing the brick floor; to the kitchen, where the men cooks were in active preparation round their flat stoves and then on to the *Volkstube*, or people's room, where all the lower servants, the coachmen and grooms, (here not included as house servants,) the cow-girls and sheep-boys, &c., all come in for their meals at stated times, and muster between twenty and thirty daily. This was a room for an artist—a black earthen floor, walls toned down to every variety of dingy reds, blacks and yellows, with a huge bulwark of a stove of a good terra cotta color, and earthen vessels, and wooden tubs and benches; and, in short, every implement of old-fashioned unwieldiness and picturesque form. But the chief attractions were the inmates; for, hard at work, plying their spinning-wheels, sat, either singly or in groups, about fifteen peasant girls—their many-striped petticoats, and dull blue or grey cloth jackets, their tanned locks falling over their shoulders, and deep embrowned spinning wheels, telling well against the warm tones around them. In some the hair was so light a hue as exactly to repeat the color of the flax upon their spindles; and these, the housekeeper informed us in broken German, were the surest of husbands—flaxen hair being a feature that the hearts of the peasant are never known to resist. Most of these picturesque damsels were barefooted, and one pretty yellow haired lassie, observing that she was particularly an object of attention, let her hair fall like a veil over her stooping face, and peeped archly at us from between the waving strands. I can't say that any of these young ladies looked particularly clean or inviting, but every vice has its pleasant side, and the worst of dirt and filth is, they are so picturesque. Some of them rose on being addressed, and, stooping low, coaxed us down with both hands—much as if they were trying to smooth down our dresses. This is the national salutation to their superiors, especially if there be a re-

quest to make. Further on stood a stout kitchen-girl, her jacket thrown off, and only her shift over her shoulders, kneading in a deep trough with a strong wooden but the coarse bread which is called by distinction, the *Volksbrod*, or people's bread. The spinning girls belong to the estate, and attend at the *hof*, or court, as the seigneur's house termed, for so many weeks in the winter to spin under the housekeeper's superintendence; nor do they appear very averse to this labor, for, beside the smart grooms and soft shepherds who assort with them at meal times, this *Volkstube* is the resort of every beggar and wandering pedlar, and the universal tattleshop of the neighborhood.

The further branches of this spinning department are among the most interesting of a lady's *wirthschaft*. The commoner linen is woven in the cottages of the peasantry, but the more fanciful and delicate manufactures, the diaper for towels, the damask for tablelinen, devolve to a regular weaver, of which each estate maintains one or more, and who sends in his book of patterns for the lady to select grounds, centers and borders according to her taste.

Servants of both sexes swarm here as numerously as in a house of the same rank in England—the one, it is true, with rusty coat and unblackened boots, but the other neat and tidy, generally in her village costume, if unmarried her hair braided simply and picturesquely round her head, and goes sliding over the parquét floors, and, such is the inconvenience of these thoroughfare houses, has no other passage from her working room to the kitchen than through the whole splendid suite of drawing-rooms. Here, as in all countries in an early stage of civilization, the women labor twice as willingly and effectually as the men. As household servants they become trustworthy and active, work with their needle, wash, and dress hair superiorly well; while the Esthonian ladies require so much attendance, and accustom their servants to consider them as so helpless, that it has cost me a severe dumb struggle with an officious lady's maid to assert the independence of my own habits.

After taking a review of the dwelling-rooms and bed-rooms, all spacious and airy, and wanting nought save that most desirable of all bed-room requisites, privacy, my hostess led the way to her *schafferie*, or store-room, and, unlocking the room with a slight solemnity of manner, ushered me into a crowded treasury of household goods. The room was a very warehouse, hung round, fitted up, and strewed about with the numerous items of a housekeeper's economy, to which those who only consume them often attach too little importance, and those who have to provide them too much. Side by side on the floor stood big-bodied bottles of spirit and liqueur, rolls of coarse linen, jars of pickles and preserves, hanks of wool, loaves of sugar, and bundles of flax, &c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MERCANTILE ASSOCIATION.—It is not generally known that the merchants of this city have formed a Vigilance Association, for the purpose of protecting themselves against a system of swindling that is carried on to an immense extent, of obtaining goods under false pretences. Already large sums have been saved by the promptitude with which they have followed up various individuals. A writer in the *Courier* says: "The history of Walbridge and his associates was known to this Association months ago; not a single member is a sufferer, unless a voluntary one, and I may, perhaps, add with truth, that nearly every member was applied to by this swindling concern for credit, and was refused. So in many other cases which I might cite, the information possessed by the Association has been effectual in preventing frauds upon its members. Merchants of New York, let me urge you to combine together for mutual protection."—*Express*.

A truly American Minister—We find in the Washington Union the following anecdote furnished to the editor of that paper by an American gentleman who was a spectator of the scene described. It is highly creditable to our Minister at Constantinople:—

"Among many efficient acts of Mr. Carr, the following deserves particular notice, as it caused, at the time, a great sensation among the members of the diplomatic corps at Constantinople:—

"An American missionary family, residing at a distant seaport of the empire, had some years ago received (as an act of charity) two very interesting little Armenian female children, left entirely destitute by the death of their father, and the extreme poverty of their mother. They were carefully educated in this family, who entertained for them the feelings of relations, and had grown up fine girls; when the port was visited by a part of the Turkish fleet, under the command of the late Capudan Pasha, or commander-in-chief of the navy, and governor of the imperial arsenal; being also brother-in-law to the Sultan, and, on the whole, a very distinguished personage. The girls had a profligate brother, who, to ingratiate himself with the *great man*, informed him of the existence and situation of his sisters, who were immediately demanded by the pasha of the missionaries.

"Now the pashas, when placed in authority at a distance from Constantinople; are more despotic than the Sultan himself can be at the present day, (if so inclined, which is not the case with the present one,) surrounded as he is, at his capital, by the influences

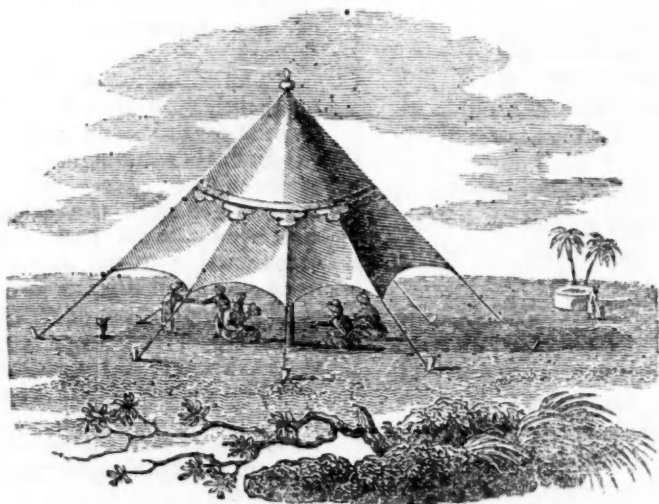
of the representatives of the Christian powers.

"The situation of the humble, and (apparently) unprotected missionaries, exposed to such fearful odds, may well be imagined; yet had they courage to refuse to surrender their charge. The pasha became furious; treated not only the missionaries, but the American Consul with great indignity, and threatened a resort to force. The missionaries sent their charge to a place of concealment, among some distant friends, and sent a statement of the affair, by the first steamer, to the minister at Constantinople.

"The prompt action of the government on the appeal of Mr. Carr, is the best proof of its efficiency: on the return of the first steamer from Constantinople, the children and their protectors were not only left undisturbed, but the *great man* himself, on meeting any of the parties in the streets of the town, gave them a most respectful SALAM."

BRICKS.—A new invention for making bricks has been planned by Mr. Samuel Lowry, of Philadelphia, which it is estimated will turn out 50,000 in a day, without the aid of steam. It consists of an inclined plane, upon which run cars connected by a rope that passes over a pulley at one end of the plane. The cars, which contain divisions or moulds the size of the article to be produced, are filled with the earth, and as a filled one passes down, the empty one moves up, the only power required to move them being the weight. The cars in their descent pass under cutters placed at certain angles, which throw off the top clay, and rollers which give the brick the required smoothness.—*Evening Post*.

"*Darwin's Researches in Geology.*"—These researches relate to Brazil, Chili, the shores of the river Plata, the Rio Negro, Patagonia and Peru, Tahiti, New Zealand, and Australia. "In a broad bank of sand hillocks, which separate the Laguna del Portrero from the shores of the Plata, Mr. Darwin found a group of those vitrified tubes which are generally thought to have been formed by lightning entering the sand. The wind blowing away the sand, which is not held in its place by any vegetation, has partially disclosed them; they extend for several feet into the ground. Their internal surface is vitrified and glossy. These *fulgarities* have been imitated in Paris, by passing strong galvanic shocks through finely powdered glass; when salt was added, they were increased in size. As this was done with the strongest battery that could be procured, and with a substance as easily melted as powdered glass, it gives us a strong impression of the power of lightning, which could form a cylinder of a material so refractory as quartz, to the depth sometimes of thirty feet."—*N. A. Review*.



TENTS.

It seems somewhat strange, in opening one of the late and instructive Guide Books for travellers in the East, such as are now published in England, to find it strongly recommended to go provided with a tent and its appropriate furniture. To a traveller in good health and spirits, there must be something peculiarly attractive in the prospect of passing through any of the countries celebrated in ancient history, in the same manner and under the same circumstances as those distinguished personages, and the peculiar people of whom we have read.

Mr. Cochrane, in his "Wanderings in Greece," gives the following account of his own experience in tents, while on a journey from Athens to Mount Pentelicus, Marathon, &c., in company with two American gentlemen, Mr. Dorr and Mr. Curtes, and an Englishman, Mr. Booth, who had made an extensive tour.

"We went to the lower part of the town, to hire horses. There were four wanted for ourselves, and one to carry the tent, and the small *batterie de cuisine*, another to carry a small valise for each of us, containing our apparel and toilet, two more to carry our beds, and another to carry the *homme d'affaires*, or waiter, provider, &c. Our next care was to order some chickens and two large seasoned meat-pies to be got ready, to which we added some bread, &c., some black and green tea, coffee and sugar."

Having arrived at the monastery on

Mount Pentelicus at half past eight in the evening, "our guide, who was accustomed to such things, took off the tent from the animal that bore it, and with one of the *agoiates*," (or owners of the horses, who as usual was in company,) "erected it in about a quarter of an hour, at the same time giving instructions to another to make a fire; which, being arranged, the tea-kettle was drawn out of the *batterie de cuisine*; and in half an hour after alighting, the ground under the tent was spread with a table-cloth, upon which were placed a couple of chickens, a loaf, and a supply of excellent tea."

"The convenience of a tent I recommend to all travellers in Greece. It is so healthy you can stop where you please, and you can breathe the pure air; you are also perfectly sheltered from the dew. All over the interior of the tent a thin carpet was laid, and on this was placed our bedding. Our tent was fully large enough for four persons. After having supped well, we retired to bed; and the steward did the same, after having made provision for the next day, in the shape of three chickens, which he had purchased for one drachma each, and boiled and left them to cool, to patch up for our dinner the next day. He then spread outside of the tent a canvass, forming for himself a tent.

"*July 7th.* Last night was the first I ever slept under a tent; and the effect was quite delightful. The coolness of the air, which is the height of luxury in a hot climate, the stillness of the scene, every now and then disturbed by the tinkling of the sheep-bells that were heard at a distance, and the murmuring of the brook, alter-

nately engaging my attention, and lulling it to repose.

"Our homme d'affaires, at half past four, awoke us; cool water was brought in little basins, from the running brook; and these were placed either upon a large stone, or upon the stump of a tree, which was our dressing-table; and attached to each was a small mirror, about six inches square. While we were performing our toilet, our tent was struck and packed, and the breakfast prepared, the ewes of the convent again furnishing us with the milk, which, with coffee, toast and a chicken, formed our breakfast. In travelling, whether in Greece or elsewhere, you should be always civil to your guides, that is, the men who take care of the horses. It is well to give them part of your repast. It makes them very obliging; and you have to depend much upon them; for if you live in your tent, they conduct you to good spots for stopping at, which is everything."

The following information on the different kinds of tents used in the East, in illustration of certain passages of scripture, we copy from the Appendix to Calmet's Dictionary. (Vol. 3. p. 267.)

"Great part of the history of the Old Testament refers to patriarchs, who had no continuing city, but who resided under moveable dwellings, not always of the most substantial nature. We may consider these temporary habitations as being of various kinds. Some were composed of the slightest materials, and were of equally slight construction; others were probably meant for somewhat longer continuance; and others, again, were mere shades or shelters, to be put up and taken down with great rapidity. Tents themselves were also of various forms and dimensions; sometimes very small and incommodious, sometimes very grand and magnificent. Tents were appropriate to the different sexes. So Isaac brought Rebekah into his mother's tent. Genesis 24, v. 67. So Laban went into Jacob's tent, Leah's tent, Rachel's tent, and even the maid servants' tent. Gen. 31. v. 33.

"Erections answering the purposes of tents, however slight they may be, must have, 1st., a supporting pole, or poles, placed near the centre; 2d., also hangings, or curtains of some kind; 3d., also cords, attached to 3d., pins driven into the ground, in order to secure the curtains. The pins are commonly made of wood, but may, no doubt, be of iron, &c."

SOUTH AMERICAN MANNERS.

Maracaibo, Venezuela, S. A., 1845.

This town is situated on the West side of the outlet of Lake Maracaibo, four or five miles therefrom and twenty-two from the Gulf of the same name.

The country for several miles around is nearly barren, with only here and there a tree. The Cactus species of plant, however, flourishes well, for it often grows to the height of twenty feet and is used for hedges. This waste of vegetation no doubt has a tendency to keep the town healthy. On the hills near by are numerous specimens of petrified wood, some of which have been the trunks of good-sized trees. Here are also hollow sand stones, about the size of a lemon, which when shaken have a rattling sound, caused by a round piece of white clay in the inside. The houses are generally one story, whitewashed on the outside, with large doors and windows, (the latter without glass,) and well adapted to the climate. The roofs, unlike the hot way of covering with shingles, in some of the West India Islands, are made by laying reeds close together on the rafters, next to a bed of mortar, and then tiles. The floors are also of large flat tiles. The people are of every grade of color, from the African of the deepest dye, to the whitest Andalusian. They are good-natured but indolent; many may be seen swinging in their hammocks after eleven o'clock in the morning. Although they commit small thefts—scarcely a burglary or a highway robbery has been known for years. The dress of the men generally consists of a white or light-colored roundabout and pantaloons of cotton or linen, with Panama hat and slippers. Some would-be "grandeens," absurd as it may seem for a Tropical climate, wear a cloth coat and black fur hat.

The ladies have not bonnets, but throw a lace shawl over their head, taking good care that their beautiful black hair and plentiful supply of combs should show through the interstices. Over the head they carry a silk umbrella of either light red or blue color. Around the shoulders is thrown a gaudy silk handkerchief, with the figures of Chinese, &c. thereon. The dress is of silk or high-colored calico.

Almost every thing is carried about the town on men's shoulders, such as a bale of sheeting, ceroon of sugar or bag of coffee. Those in the habit of carrying become very strong. I saw one man take two bags of coffee weighing 270 lbs. and carry them 200 yards to be shipped, and not once but for an hour together.

There are not half-a-dozen carts in the town, neither will they have them. A vessel with several is now here, and as there is no sale for them, she will be obliged to take them back. Indeed, nearly every thing is done in a primitive manner, even the corn is ground as in Scripture times by the women.

The only four-wheeled vehicle is a Rocka-

way wagon owned by an American. Although it has been here for some time, yet when the owner takes a drive about the streets, the people come out of their houses to gaze, and the children to run after it. What would they do if one of our Locomotives should come among them?

The produce of the country is either down the Lake in small schooners or from the mountains on donkeys. But few of the poorer classes eat wheat bread, on account of its high price; all that is used here comes from the United States, and pays a duty of \$5 per barrel. They live mostly on plantains, corn-cakes, cocoa and goats-milk cheese.

This town contains from 15 to 20,000 inhabitants and has seven churches, (all Catholic,) each of which has four bells of different sizes. They are hung in the four walls of the tower, and such a jinkling as is kept up from daylight till nine o'clock at night cannot be beat in any part of the world.

The way laws are published is to march a file of soldiers to the Market Place, there beat the drum, to call the people together, then read the law,—and all this for want of a newspaper.

If a stranger takes a walk along the water's edge at daylight, a curious sound greets his ear sometimes singly then commingling. He soon perceives it to proceed from women washing clothes. They wade out several feet, take hold of the clothes at one end, sling them over the head, bringing them down with a powerful stroke on a smooth rock or log. Of course, under such treatment they do not last long.

At night also he would often hear a regular tattoo beat on the side of a cane for the purpose of charming the fish, when they are caught by a net or line.

The national sport is cock-fighting. There is a large building in the centre of the town devoted to that purpose, and curiously enough, surmounted by a cross. But this sport is not confined to it. In taking a walk last Sunday in the outskirts of the town, I saw at some distance a group of persons under a large tree, who appeared to be in a high state of excitement. On approaching I perceived they were engaged in cock-fighting. In the centre of the circle were the combatants, and it was wonderful to observe how men become so excited over such a small business. Such shouting and talking all together could not be equalled by a political meeting in the park—some in the tree, others in their eagerness to see bending forward, and others again on their knees in the sand, with head bent forward looking as anxious at each stroke of the spur or peck of the bill as though their life or an empire depended on the issue. At last one of the combatants was killed, at which there went up a shout that would have put to flight a whole tribe of North American savages.

It is said that the Priests have not the same

influence over the people as formerly, yet I saw a beautiful writing-desk that had been given to a Priest a few days ago by a widow for saying mass for the soul of her husband.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

A REMARKABLE NEGRO SLAVE.

BENJAMIN BANNEKER.—*An African by descent.*—The African Repository for November contains an interesting memoir (read before the Historical Society of Maryland) of this remarkable man, from the pen of J. H. B. Latrobe, Esq., of Baltimore.—Benjamin Banneker was born of a mother, the child of natives of Africa, his father being a slave in Baltimore county, near Endicott's, in 1732. His mother was a woman of great energy and industry, and his father purchased his freedom. The parents of Benjamin purchased a small farm, of one hundred acres, in what was then a wilderness, though within ten miles of Baltimore, (for in 1754 the site of that city was occupied only by a few scattered houses,) and their son continued in his youth to labor for them, though in the intervals of toil, and when he was approaching or attained manhood, he was sent to an obscure and distant school, which he attended until he had acquired a knowledge of reading, and had advanced in arithmetic as far as "Double Position." On leaving school he became his own instructor, and though he labored, well nigh uninterruptedly, for years, his retentive memory lost nothing, and by his own mental operations he extended his arithmetical knowledge. He was an acute observer of events, sought information from all sources accessible to him, and acquired a fund of knowledge beyond that of many, or rather of most, in more favorable circumstances. His reputation spread, and he was viewed in his neighborhood as a remarkable man. At about the age of thirty he contrived and made a clock, (deriving all his knowledge on the subject from studying the machinery of a watch,) which proved an excellent time-piece.

In 1787, Mr. George Ellicott (who settled in his vicinity) lent him Myer's Tables, Fergusson's Astronomy, Leadbeater's Lunar Tables and some few astronomical instruments. Mr. Ellicott was accidentally prevented from giving him any information in regard to the books or the instruments; yet when he met Banneker after a brief interval, he found him acquainted with both, and absorbed in the contemplation of the new world which was thus opened to his view. From this time the study of astro-

onomy became the great object of his life.—He soon resolved to calculate an almanac, and proceeded far in preparing tables of Logarithms for himself, when a set of tables was presented to him by Mr. George Ellicott. There are memorandums showing that in some instances he corrected errors in Fergusson and Leadbeater. His first almanac was calculated for the year 1792. Messrs. Goddard & Angell, the publishers, in their preface, observe, that "they feel gratified in the opportunity of presenting to the public through their press, what must be considered as an extraordinary effort of genius—a complete and accurate ephemeris for the year 1792, calculated by a sable descendant of Africa;" and further, that "they flatter themselves, that a philanthropic public, in this enlightened era, will be induced to give their patronage and support to this work, not only for its intrinsic merits, (it having met the approbation of several of the most distinguished astronomers of America, particularly of the celebrated Mr. Rittenhouse,) but from similar motives to those which induced the editors to give this calculation the preference, the ardent desire of drawing modest men from obscurity, and controverting the long-established and illiberal prejudice against the blacks." It is stated that a prominent motive for this effort, to Banneker himself, was his desire to do justice to the intellect of the colored race. He therefore sent a copy of his almanac to Mr. Jefferson, then Secretary of State, and in his letter accompanying it says, "Although you may have the opportunity of perusing it after its publication, yet I chose to send it to you in manuscript previous thereto, that you might not only have an earlier inspection, but that you might also view it in my own hand-writing."

To this letter Mr. Jefferson replied:
PHILAD., Pa., August 30, 1791.

I thank you sincerely for your letter of the 19th instant, and for the almanac it contained. Nobody wishes more than I do to see such proofs, as you exhibit, that nature has given to our black Brethren talents equal to those of other colors of men, and that the appearance of a want of them is owing only to the degraded condition of their existence both in Africa and America. I can add with truth that no one wishes more ardently to see a good system commenced for raising the condition both of the body and mind to what it ought to be, as fast as the imbecility of their present existence, and other circumstances which cannot be

neglected, will admit. I have taken the liberty of sending your almanac to Monsieur Condorcet, Secretary of the Academy of Sciences at Paris, and member of the Philanthropic Society, because I consider it a document to which your whole color had a right, for their justification against the doubts which have been entertained of them.

I am, with great esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient servant

THOS. JEFFERSON.

MR. BENJAMIN BANNEKER, near Ellicott's Lower Mills, Baltimore Co.,"

Banneker continued the annual preparation of his almanac until 1802, and died in 1804, in the 72d year of his age. He was never married. He was simple and retiring in his habits, would watch the heavens by night, and sleep by day, and was very kind, generous, hospitable, dignified and pleasing in his manners. In his latter years his hair was thick and white, which gave him a very venerable appearance. His dress was uniformly of superfine drab broadcloth, made in the old style; and it is stated by Mr. Ellicott, who knew him well, that the statue of Franklin, at the Library in Philadelphia, is a perfect likeness of him. It is well remarked by Mr. Latrobe:

"The extent of his knowledge is not so remarkable, as that he acquired what he did under the circumstances we have described. It might be said by those disposed to sneer at this simple history, if there be any such, that after all he was but an almanac maker—a very humble personage in the ranks of astronomical science. But that the almanac maker of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, from 1791 to 1802, should have been a free black man, is, to use the language of Mr. Jefferson, a fact to which his whole color has a right for their justification against the doubts that have been entertained of them."—*Jour. of Com.*

MONEY FOUND.—A few days since, a boy in Feeding Hills, West Springfield, accidentally noticed in a crevice of a rock, some distance from any house, a small package of sheet lead, neatly wrapped, and secured with wire. On opening it, he found in three separate divisions, 27 \$10 bills, \$270 of the Phoenix Bank, Hartford, good money, and in good order, all of the date of 1827. This old date is evidence that the money has been in its hiding place many years. There is as yet no trace of the ownership of the money, or who put it in its hiding place.

POETRY.

For the Amer. Penny Magazine.

A PRAYER.

Star of eternity rise,
To guide me o'er life's stormy sea :
My devious path through peril lies,
And I can steer by none but thee.

Tossed on the billows, in despair,
At mercy of the winds and waves,
I vainly look abroad, to share
A covert from the storm that raves.

Before me dangers thickly crowd,
As, hush'd within, my boding soul
Doth o'er surrounding conflict brood,
And fears the issue past control.

Oft by me drift the scatter'd wrecks
Of nobler barks by far than mine ;
Ah ! what can save me from their fate,
Except I steer by light divine ?

So falsely glares all other light,
Like flashes from the tempest near,
To show new danger through the night
And only gleam to disappear.

Star of the mind ! dispel the gloom :
Abiding light ! chase fear away :
Ah Thou, my polar star ! Illume
With light divine my troubled way.

Beneath the all-protecting guide,
Ah ! bring my bark through love's behest,
Till, safe at anchor, she shall ride
Within the port of endless rest.

J. M.

Receipt No. 3 of the Cook of the late Sir
Joseph Banks :—Mr. Henry Osborne.

BATTER PUDDING.

Take six ounces of fine flour, a little salt and three eggs ; beat up well with a little milk, added by degrees till the batter is quite smooth ; make it the thickness of cream ; put it into a buttered pie-dish, and bake three quarters of an hour ; or into a buttered and flowered basin, tied over tight with a cloth ; boil one and a half hour, or two hours.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We acknowledge the favor received from "G. A. G.", in the Sketch of the Life of Wilberforce, and commence the publication of it in the present number of our magazine. Having had the gratification of a personal acquaintance with that distinguished Christian philanthropist, and visited him in our youth, at his home at Kensington Gore, near London, this just and valuable notice of him has excited very interesting recollections of the subject, and feelings like friendship for the

author of the memoir, although he is unknown to us, even by name. We would recommend the reading of this paper in any lyceums or other literary associations to which it may be appropriate, or the materials it contains for the use of those who may be preparing lectures for the gratification and benefit of their townsmen.

To our friend at Yaphank, L. I., who inquires concerning the grounds on which premiums were awarded, at the Ploughing Match at West Chester, we hope soon to make a satisfactory reply.

To enquiries whether we can furnish the early numbers of this magazine, we reply in the affirmative. All are stereotyped, except three or four, and those will be, when the printed copies on hand begin to fail.

To various applications for seeds, we refer to the first pages of this number, and also to page 576.

To several correspondents who have been so obliging as to send us poetry and prose communications, we would express our thanks, with our intentions to publish them in turn.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—The St. Louis Missourian says that wild hemp has been found in the State of Missouri. A farmer from Louis county, being in a hemp warehouse, accidentally saw some Manilla hemp, made enquiry what it was, and, upon being informed, said he had produced something exactly like it from a weed on his farm, and that he would send in a sample, which he did ; and it proves to be a variety of the Manilla hemp, resembling almost the New Zealand hemp ; but it is said to belong to the same genus as the New Zealand, Sisal, and St. Domingo hemp, from which all our heavy cordage is made. If this can be found in any quantity, it is a valuable discovery.

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